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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 04/22/2021

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Tahoe Truckee Unified School District Awarded Grant for Three New Buses

Placer County Air Pollution Control District Collaborates to Reduce Emissions from School Buses

Truckee, CA: The Placer County Air Pollution Control District (Placer Air District) is pleased to announce the arrival of three brand new school buses to the Tahoe Truckee Unified School District (TTUSD). These new buses will replace older, more polluting buses in the school district's fleet, and not only meet the latest safety requirements, but are also equipped with clean-burning diesel engines that meet California's strictest tailpipe emission standard. Benefits of meeting this standard include the reduction of smog-forming reactive organic gases and nitrogen oxides, along with diesel particulate matter, all associated with significant adverse health effects, including shortness of breath, bronchitis, asthma attacks, and premature death.

These projects will improve air quality for residents of disproportionately impacted communities in the Kings Beach area. The new buses will be especially beneficial to sensitive groups including school-age children, who regularly ride the bus and tend to be more susceptible than healthy adults to air pollution due to their developing respiratory systems.

The award was part of approximately \$2 million in state and local funds made available through the Placer Air District's annual grant programs. These programs offer incentives for businesses and public agencies to replace higher emitting heavy-duty vehicles and equipment with cleaner engines, and fund infrastructure projects that support California's transformation toward zero and near-zero emission technologies.

TTUSD will receive approximately \$475,000 in funding from the Placer Air District's Community Air Protection (CAP) Incentives Program to purchase the new buses. CAP Incentive funds are granted by the California Air Resources Board (CARB) and administered by air districts in partnership with local communities. This Program addresses localized air pollution by providing grant funding to projects that implement early actions to achieve emission reductions in excess of those required by regulation, with a focus on reducing exposure in impacted communities and using a variety of strategies, including incentives for mobile sources. Placer Air District works collaboratively with CARB and actively engages with members of impacted communities in Placer County to create a community-focused action framework that addresses emission impacts, responds to concerns, improves air quality, and reduces exposure to criteria air pollutants and toxic air contaminants.

The Placer Air District appreciates the opportunity to collaborate with TTUSD and their diligent staff in support of their efforts to acquire and operate state of the art, low-emission school buses that reduce localized air pollution and improve air quality in the Tahoe Basin.

About the Placer County Air Pollution Control District (Placer Air District):

The Placer Air District (<u>placerair.org</u>) is a regulatory agency focused on reducing air pollution and maintaining healthy air quality in Placer County. Incentive grants are just one of the tools used by the District and are available annually for a wide variety of projects, including school bus, heavy-duty vehicle and off-road equipment replacements and electric charging infrastructure.